



JPW 3623

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on December 10, 2004, which is the date I am signing this certificate, I am depositing this correspondence the United States Postal Service, first class mail, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Ann Pommier

Ann Pommier

**Applicant:** Mikurak, Michael G.

**Serial No.:** 09/444,889

**Filed:** 11/22/1999

**Title:** SCHEDULING AND PLANNING  
MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE IN A  
NETWORK-BASED SUPPLY CHAIN  
ENVIRONMENT

**Atty. Docket No.:** 060021-336701

**Examiner:** Van Doren, Beth

**Group Art Unit:** 3623

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicant brings the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the examiner's attention. 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. These references may be material to examination of the above-identified application. Please do not construe the filing of this information disclosure statement as a representation that applicant has made a search (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), or as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. We enclose copies of the cited documents within a box herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted:

- ☒ 1. Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and therefore, Applicant believes no fee is required;
- ☐ 2. After the period specified in paragraph (1) hereinabove of this section, but is being filed before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37

CFR 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of the following:

☐ (a) A statement that either:

(i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

OR

(ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

OR

☐ (b) The fee of \$180 for filing of an Information Disclosure Statement as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).

☐ 3. After the period specified in paragraph (2) of this section, but is filed on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by both:

☐ (a) A statement that either:

(i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

OR

(ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

☐ (b) The fee of \$180.00 for filing of an Information Disclosure Statement as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

Applicant would appreciate the Examiner initialing and signing a copy of Form PTO-1449, transmitted herewith, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or

other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 50-1901** referencing order number 060021-336701.

December 9, 2004

  
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/444,889
				Filing Date	November 22, 1999
				First Named Inventor	Mikurak, Michael G.
				Art Unit	3623
				Examiner Name	Van Doren, Beth
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number 60021-336701	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number -Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	1	4,992,940	02/1991	Dworking, Ross E.
	2	5,204,821	04/1993	Inui et al.
	3	5,610,839	03/1997	Karolak et al.
	4	5,630,070	05/1997	Dietrich et al.
	5	5,805,458	09/1998	McNamara et al.
	6	5,920,700	07/1999	Gordon et al.
	7	5,946,662	08/1999	Ettl et al.
	8	5,953,707	09/1999	Huang et al.
	9	6,115,690	09/2000	Wong, Charles
	10	6,157,915	12/2000	Bhaskaran et al.
	11	6,167,378	12/2000	Webber, Jr., Donald Gary
	12	6,363,411 B1	03/2002	Dugan et al.
	13	6,405,364	06/2002	Bowman-Amuah, Michel K.
	14	6,411,922	06/2002	Clark et al.
	15	6,425,006	07/2002	Chari et al.
	16	2001/0011222 A1	08/2001	McLaughlin et al.
	17	6,351,738 B1	02/2002	Clark, Douglas W.
	18	6,524,109 B1	02/2003	Lacy et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	T <sup>6</sup>
	19	WO 97/24691	07/1997	Rieden et al.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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				Examiner Name	Van Doren, Beth
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	60021-336701

**OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>2</sup>
	<b>20</b>	Chandler, Mark. "Three steps you can take today to strengthen your supply chain." Apparel Industry Magazine, v. 59 no. 9, pp 146-148, September 1998.	
	<b>21</b>	Fernie, John. "International comparisons of supply chain management in grocery retailing." Service Industries Journal, v. 154 no. 4, pp 134-147, October 1995.	
Examiner Signature			Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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